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Silas A. Hudson

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SIoux CITY, IOWA, OCTOBER 6, 1896.

I notice in the October, 1896, number of *THE ANNALS*, page 564, the statement credited to Major C. D. Ham of Dubuque, that Daniel Webster was interested with General Geo. W. Jones in the town site of Sioux City.

This is unquestionably a mistake, for Daniel Webster died October 24, 1852, about two years before the first survey of town lots at Sioux City, and three years and a half before the entry of the town site at the Government Land Office. I have had occasion to investigate titles at Sioux City, in many of which General Jones was once interested, but never heard that Webster was interested with him till I saw it in the newspapers last summer.

GEO. W. WAKEFIELD.

NOTABLE DEATHS.

SILAS A. HUDSON died at Burlington, Iowa, December 19, 1896. He settled in that city in 1839, and for many years occupied prominent official positions both in the State and Nation. He was a clerk in one of the Territorial Legislatures which met in Burlington, and the first chief clerk of the house of representatives after the State was admitted into the Union, having been elected December 26, 1846. Ten years later he was elected Mayor of Burlington. He drafted the charter of the city as well as the ordinances under which its government was conducted for twenty years. He was the intimate friend of George D. Prentice, Horace Greeley, Abraham Lincoln and U. S. Grant. He was instrumental in making the arrangement under which Lincoln went to New York and made his great Cooper Institute speech, which led to his nomination for the Presidency. He was a cousin of General Grant whom he knew from boyhood. During the administration of the latter Mr. Hudson represented this country as minister to the Central American States. He resigned this last position in 1872, after which time he resided in Burlington until the day of his death. Mr. Hudson was born in Mason county, Kentucky, December 13, 1815.

WILLIAM PENN WOLF, whose death occurred at Tipton, September 19, 1896, was born December 31, 1833, at Harrisburg, Stark county, Ohio. He was of Quaker parentage. The family removing later to a farm near Marlboro, he attended the common school and seminary, and afterward taught in the Union School and at Lunaville. He was also principal of the Edinburgh High School in Portage county. He chose the law as a profession and entered the office of Bierce & Pease of Canton, Ohio. In 1856, at the age of twenty-three, he came with his parents to Cedar county. Here he engaged again in teaching school, and also studied law with Hon. Rush Clark of Iowa City. It was during these years that John Brown spent some time at Springdale. Mr. Wolf was an abolitionist, and knowing Brown well aided him in helping fugitive slaves escape to the north. In 1859 he was married to Miss Alice Macy. They removed to Tipton where Mr. Wolf began the practice of the law and where he afterward resided. He also taught in the schools and served as County Superintendent. In 1863 he was elected as representative in the State Legislature. In 1864 he formed a law partnership with Hon. J. H. Rothrock, which continued until Mr. Rothrock went upon the bench. In May, 1864, Mr. Wolf assisted

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